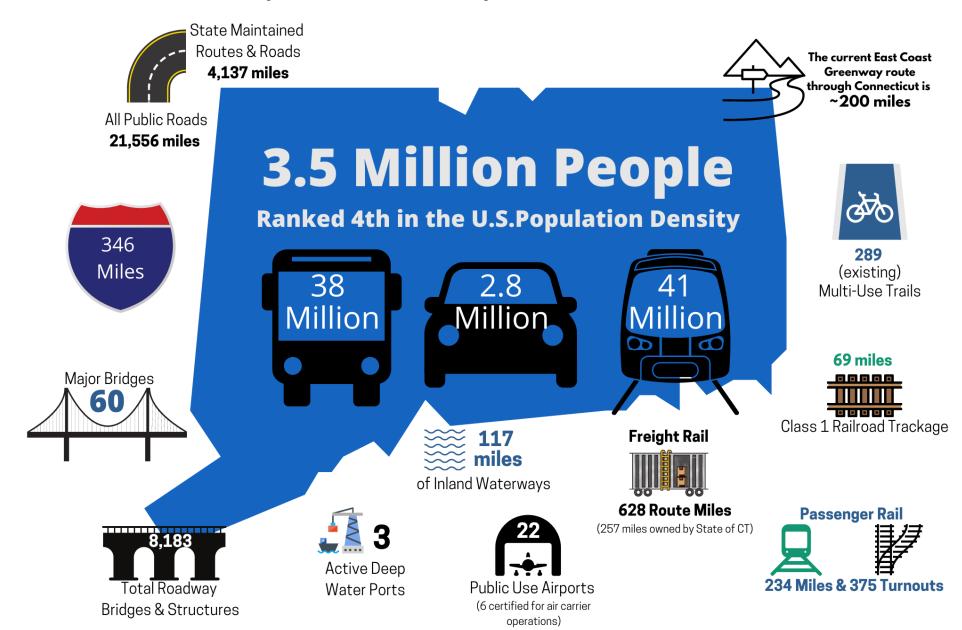


# The Impact of COVID on Connecticut's Transportation System

JOSEPH GIULIETTI, COMMISSIONER JANUARY 27, 2021

#### Connecticut's Transportation System



## CTDOT Operations During COVID-19

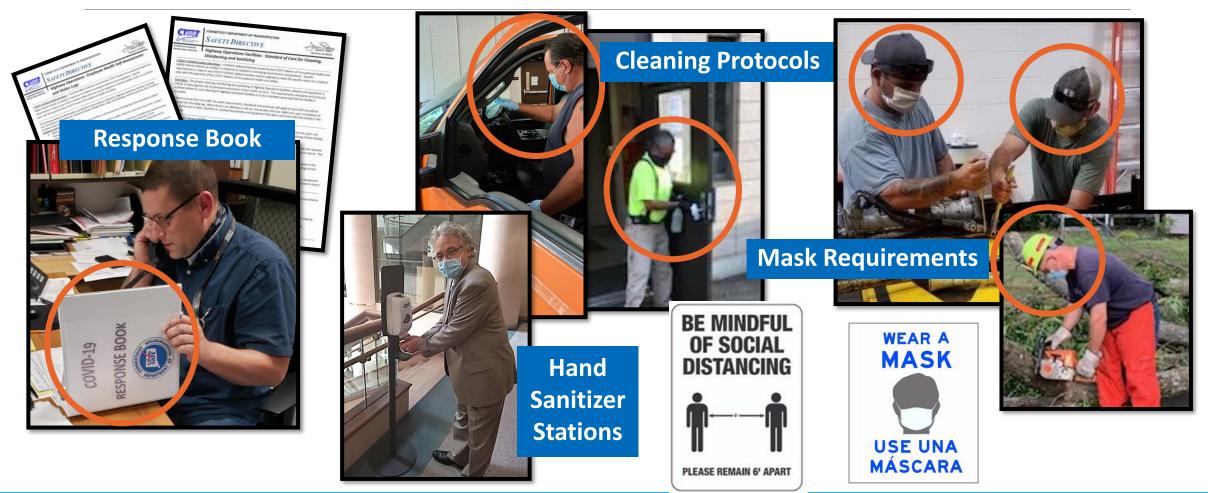


- **1,458 employees** approved for **Telework**
- Telework is working CTDOT supervisors overwhelmingly agree (88%): employees are meeting all their essential job requirements through telework

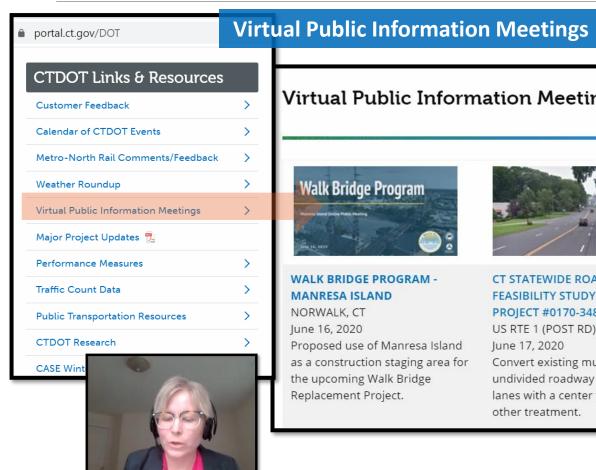
(CTDOT Supervisor Survey, August 2020)



## Safety Directives



### Processes



#### Virtual Public Information Meeting Videos

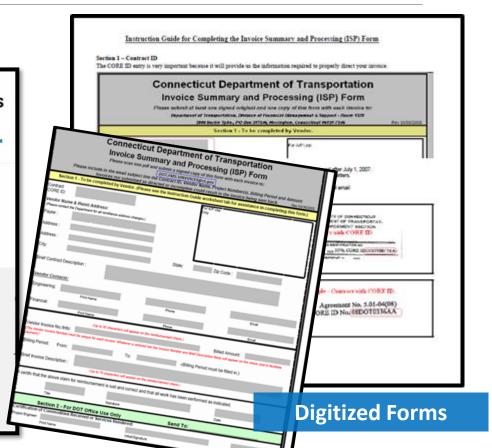


#### WALK BRIDGE PROGRAM -**MANRESA ISLAND**

NORWALK, CT lune 16, 2020 Proposed use of Manresa Island as a construction staging area for the upcoming Walk Bridge Replacement Project.

#### CT STATEWIDE ROAD DIET FEASIBILITY STUDY STATE PROJECT #0170-3480

US RTE 1 (POST RD), FAIRFIELD, CT June 17, 2020 Convert existing multi-lane undivided roadway to two through lanes with a center turn lane or other treatment.



#### COVID-19 update: Connecticut DOT gives a boost to outdoor dining

COVID-19 :: by MARK PAZNIOKAS MAY 23, 2020 "EXIT CLEAN READ"



**RIGHTS OF WAY PERMITS** 

With rain and chilly temperatures, it wasn't a good day for al fresco dining. But Gov. Ned Lamont announced Saturday the issuance of the first-of-its kind state permit: Mystic Pizza was granted permission to use a state highway right-ofway for outdoor dining.

as it sounds. The pizza

t's not quite as dangerous





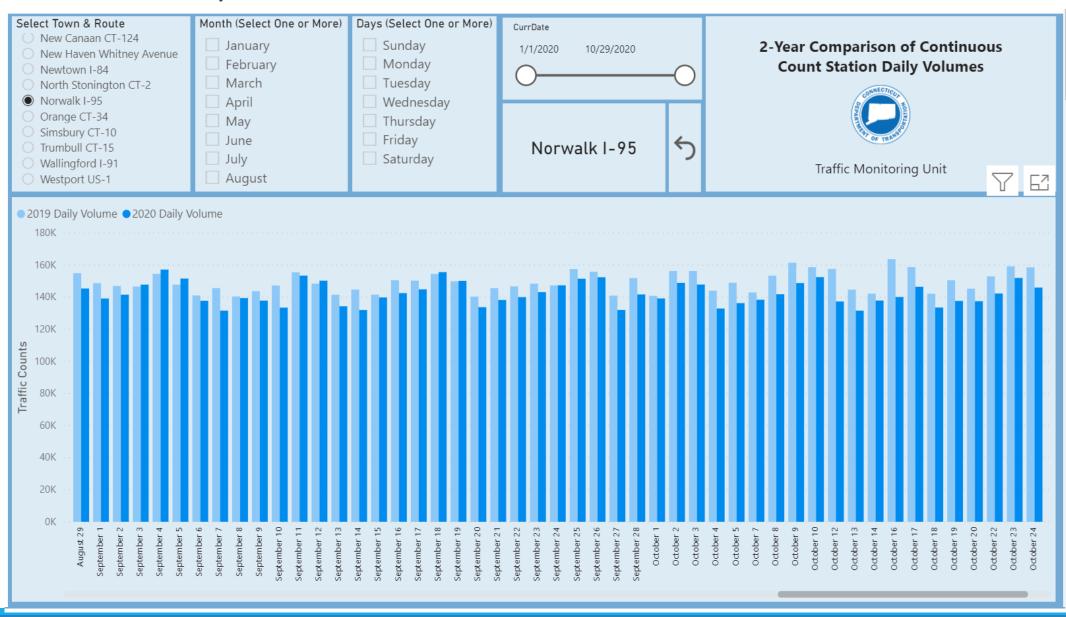
"Help Our Heroes"

**Highway Message & PSA** 



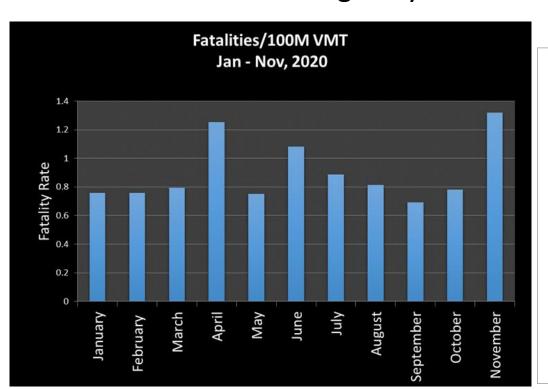


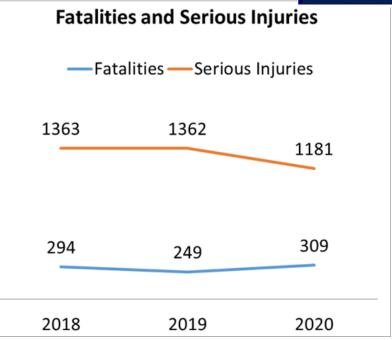
#### Traffic Analysis: Volumes



## Traffic Analysis: Safety Concerns

Fatalities on our Highways has Increased





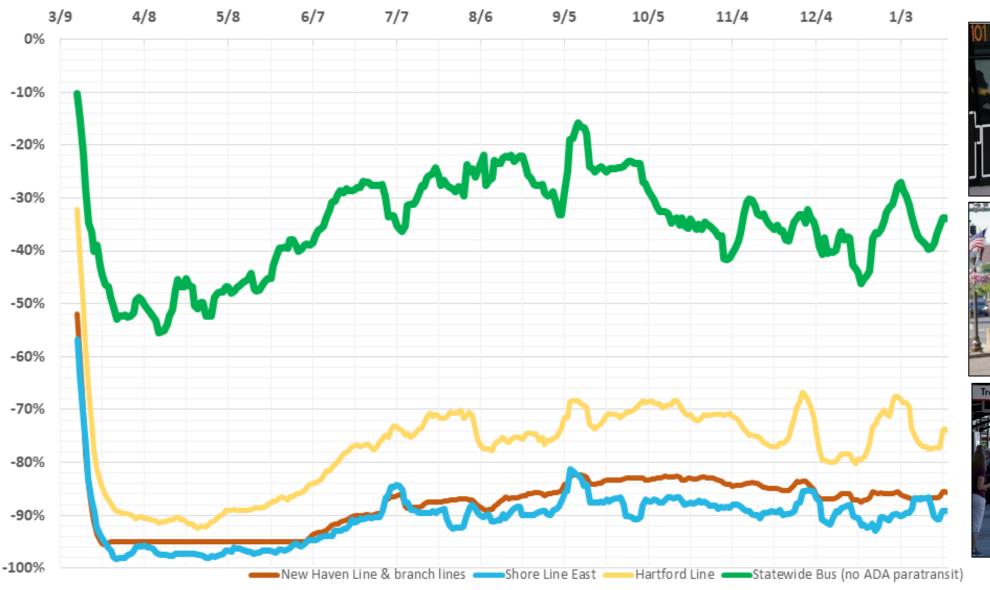






Note: VMT data was obtained from Streetlight. Fatality data is CTDOT preliminary data and subject to change

## Connecticut Public Transportation Ridership Trends 7 Day Moving Average Covid-19 Impacts









## Fiscal Impacts

#### **Special Transportation Fund**

FY 2021 Projection

- Adopted budget (pre COVID) had anticipated \$64.5 million surplus from operations, with a projected 6/30 fund balance of \$423.4 million
- ➤ January 2021 forecast now anticipates a \$59.5 million operating *deficit*, and it is projected that the fund balance on June 30, 2021 will be \$108.9 million
- Current revenue projection anticipates a \$190 million loss to revenue compared to adopted budget

#### From the OPM January 2021 Forecast Letter – Fund Projection

	FY 2021 Projection									
	(in millions)									
		Change in Jan. Est.								
	Budget (as	Estimate - Variance								
	Revised Dec.	Jan. Jan. vs. from								
General Fund	Dec. 2019) Estimate	Estimate Dec. <u>Budget</u>								
Revenues	\$20,252.5 \$19,018.1	\$19,761.7 \$ 743.6 \$ (490.8)								
Expenditures	20,086.3 19,658.3	<u>19,624.1</u> (34.2) (462.1)								
Operating Results - Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 166.2 \$ (640.2)	\$ 137.6 \$ 777.8 \$ (28.7)								
Budget Reserve Fund										
Deposit / (Withdrawal)	\$ 467.7 \$ (701.8)	\$ 431.0 <sup>1.</sup> \$ 1,132.9 \$ (36.7)								
Proj. Balance 6/30	\$ 3,542.3 \$ 2,372.7	\$ 3,505.6 \$ 1,132.9 \$ (36.7)								
Special Transportation Fund										
Revenues	\$ 1,880.8 \$ 1,689.6	\$ 1,690.7 \$ 1.1 \$ (190.1)								
Expenditures	1,816.3 1,750.2	1,750.2 - (66.1)								
Operating Results - Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 64.5 \$ (60.6)	\$ (59.5) \$ 1.1 \$ (124.0)								
Proj. Fund Balance 6/30	\$ 423.4 \$ 107.8	\$ 108.9 \$ 1.1 \$ (314.5)								

## Fiscal Impacts

## Connecticut's Special Transportation Fund (STF) has faced fiscal pressures for many years

- Gas Tax was reduced by \$0.14 in late 1990s and has not been increased since.
- Revenue from the state's General Fund has been moved into the STF.

## covid has increased pressures on the STF by reducing major sources of revenue by an estimated \$190M (from adopted budget)

- The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) may provide some revenue backstop as requested by state DOTs.
- > FTA CARES Act Funds are allowing us to continue to operate public transportation by replacing lost farebox revenue but excluded the Hartford Line from eligibility.

#### From the OPM January 2021 Forecast Letter - Revised Revenue

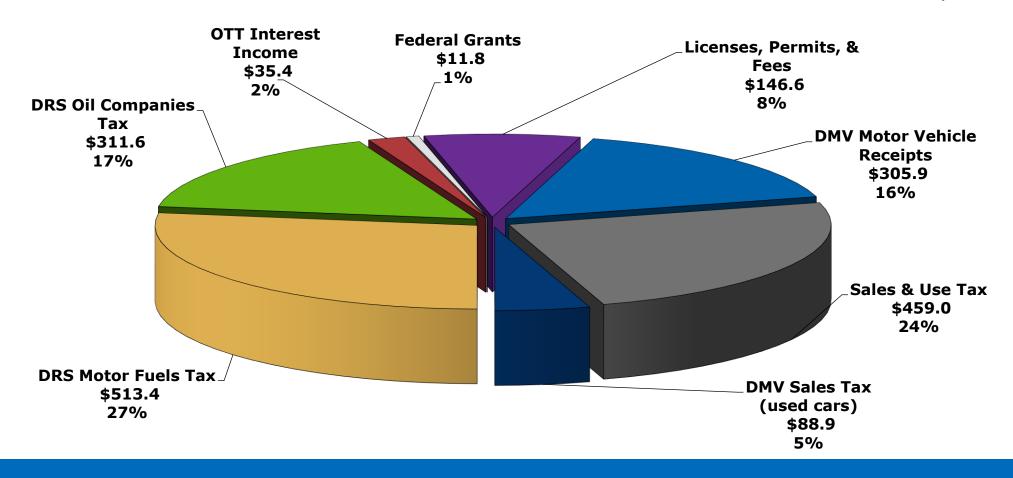
		General ssembly	Revised stimates		Over/	
	Budget Plan <sup>1.</sup>		 OPM	(	Under)	
TAXES						
Motor Fuels	\$	505.1	\$ 467.4	\$	(37.7)	
Oil Companies		330.2	203.5		(126.7)	
Sales & Use Tax		454.1	442.3		(11.8)	
Sales Tax DMV		86.1	94.0		7.9	
TOTAL - TAXES		1,375.5	1,207.2		(168.3)	
Less: Refunds of Taxes		(15.0)	 (15.0)			
TOTAL - TAXES - NET	\$	1,360.5	\$ 1,192.2	\$	(168.3)	
OTHER REVENUE						
Motor Vehicle Receipts	\$	305.9	\$ 332.9	\$	27.0	
Licenses, Permits, Fees		146.6	129.6		(17.0)	
Interest Income		36.7	4.9		(31.8)	
Federal Grants		11.8	11.8		-	
Transfers (To)/From Other Funds		24.5	24.5		-	
Refunds of Payments		(5.2)	 (5.2)		-	
TOTAL - OTHER REVENUE	\$	520.3	\$ 498.5	\$	(21.8)	
TOTAL - SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND REVENUE	\$	1,880.8	\$ 1,690.7	\$	(190.1)	

#### **PRE-COVID**

January 2020 Consensus Revenue Projection STF Revenue Sources (\$ millions)

Gross Total = \$1.872.6 Billion Less refunds – \$20.2 million Plus Transfers + \$24.5 Million

FY 2021 Estimated Revenues - \$1.877 Billion



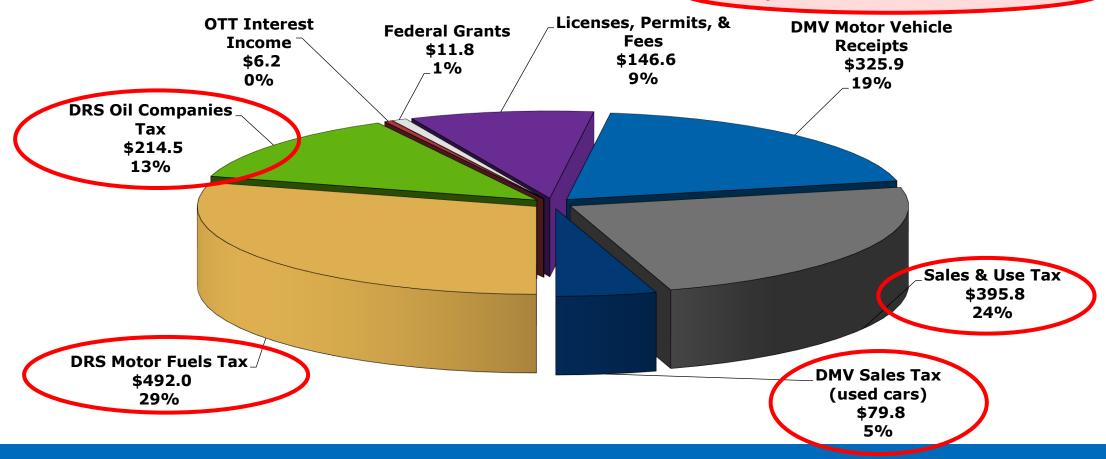
#### POST-COVID FY 2021

April 2020 Consensus Revenue Projection STF Revenue Sources (\$ millions)

Gross Total = \$1.6726 Billion Less refunds – \$20.2 million Plus Transfers + \$24.5 Million

FY 2021 Estimated Revenues - \$1.677 Billion

Projected Down \$200M or 11%



#### January 2021 Consensus Revenue

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND																								
January 2020 and January 2021 Consensus Comparison																								
	FY 2021				FY 2022					FY 2023						FY 2024								
	Jar	nuary '20	January '21			January '20		Ja	anuary '21			January '20		January '21				January '20		Ja	nuary '21			
<u>Taxes</u>	Co	nsensus	Co	nsensus	Dif	fference	erence Cons		<u>C</u>	onsensus	Difference		<u>Co</u>	Consensus		Consensus		Difference						ference
Motor Fuels Tax	\$	513.4	\$	467.4	\$	(46.0)	\$	510.0	\$	473.3	\$	(36.7)	\$	507.9	\$	486.0	\$	(21.9)	\$	505.5	\$	492.5	\$	(13.0)
Oil Companies Tax		311.6		203.5		(108.1)		319.4		246.3		(73.1)		327.4		268.0		(59.4)		335.6		284.2		(51.4)
Sales & Use Tax		459.0		442.3		(16.7)		651.6		651.8		0.2		754.0		754.6		0.6		765.3		769.3		4.0
Sales Tax - DMV		88.9		94.0		5.1		89.8		88.2		(1.6)		90.7		89.5		(1.2)		91.6		90.4		(1.2)
Refunds of Taxes		(15.0)		(15.0)				(15.6)		(15.5)		0.1		(16.2)		(16.2)				(16.8)		(16.9)		(0.1)
Total-Taxes Less Refunds	\$	1,357.9	\$	1,192.2	\$	(165.7)	\$	1,555.2	\$	1,444.1	\$	(111.1)	\$	1,663.8	\$	1,581.9	\$	(81.9)	\$	1,681.2	\$	1,619.5	\$	(61.7)
Other Sources																								
Motor Vehicle Receipts	\$	305.9	\$	332.9	\$	27.0	\$	263.5	\$	263.5	\$	-	\$	265.6	\$	265.6	\$	-	\$	274.4	\$	274.4	\$	-
Licenses, Permits, Fees		146.6		129.6		(17.0)		147.6		140.7		(6.9)		148.2		141.9		(6.3)		148.8		143.1		(5.7)
Interest Income		35.4		4.9		(30.5)		37.3		5.1		(32.2)		38.1		5.5		(32.6)		38.8		6.4		(32.4)
Federal Grants		11.8		11.8		-		11.0		11.0		-		10.1		10.1		-		9.2		9.2		-
Transfers From/(To) Other Funds		24.5		24.5		-		(5.5)		(5.5)		-		(5.5)		(5.5)		-		(5.5)		(5.5)		-
Refunds of Payments	l	(5.2)		(5.2)	_			(5.0)	_	(5.0)		-	_	(5.0)		(5.0)			l _	(5.0)		(5.0)		
Total Other Revenues	\$	519.0	\$	498.5		(20.5)	\$	448.9	\$	409.8		(39.1)	\$	451.5	\$	412.6		(38.9)	\$	460.7	\$	422.6		(38.1)
Grand Total STF Revenues	\$	1,876.9	\$	1,690.7	\$	(186.2)	\$	2,004.1	\$	1,853.9	\$	(150.2)	\$	2,115.3	\$	1,994.5	\$	<u>(120.8</u> )	\$	2,141.9	\$	2,042.1	\$	(99.8)
			chai	nge		-9.9%						-7.5%						-5.7%						-4.7%

## SFY21 - Lost Revenue by Major Category

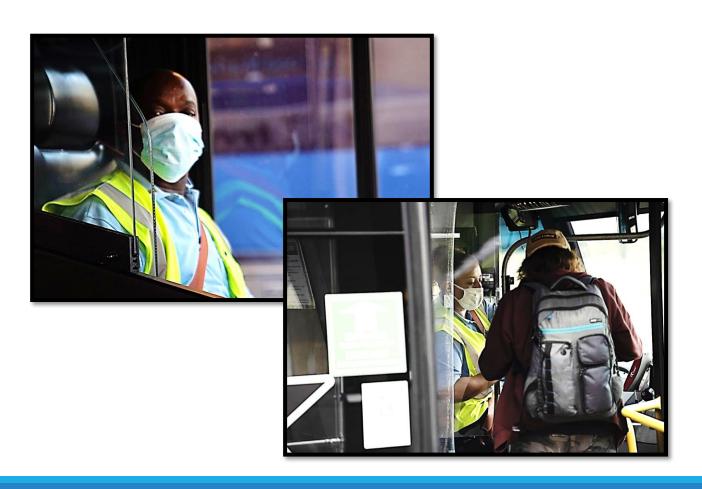
January 2021 vs January 2020 Consensus Revenue

**Projected STF Revenue Losses - Future Years:** SFY22 = (\$150.2M) // SFY23 = (\$120.8M) // SFY24 = (\$99.8M)

Consensus Revenue Projected Loss (in millions \$)									
Category	Decrease	% of Loss							
Oil Companies Tax	(108.1)	-35%							
Motor Fuels Tax	(46.0)	-9%							
Interest Income	(30.5)	-86%							
Sales & Use Tax	(11.6)	-3%							

## CTDOT Public Transportation: An Essential Service during COVID-19

- Keep workers and riders safe through enhanced cleaning, driver "office doors" and PPE
- Continue to monitor service levels and ridership
- Leverage federal CARES Act & CRRSSA funding until ridership and revenue rebounds



#### COVID-19 Enabled Accelerated Construction



- Waterbury Line signal and sidings
- Positive Train Control
- Track maintenance railroad tie replacement
- Fleet maintenance activities





## CTDOT Public Transportation: Looking to the Future

- Reallocate resources to where riders want to go
- Focus on the <u>customer experience</u>
- Integrate fares and fare systems to provide seamless service across providers and modes
- Explore further use of micro-transit to improve service and reduce costs
- Provide Wi-Fi or other connectivity solutions on buses and trains

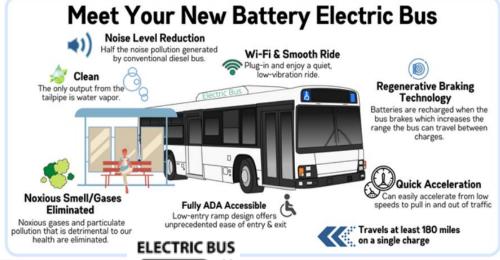


## CTDOT Public Transportation: Looking to the Future

- Continue development of BRT corridors – New Haven area and Fairfield County
- Transition the bus fleet to zero emission vehicles
- Improve train service to provide faster travel times and reliability
- Focus on mobility management







Full project descriptions: CT.gov/e-bus

## CTDOT Engineering & Construction: Well-positioned before and during COVID

- CTDOT is one of a hand full of State DOTs already advanced in digital processes
- Quickly established a remote working environment for design / project management
- Construction personnel continued to report to field following PPE/COVID protocols

## Construction During COVID: Highways



## Construction During COVID: Highways







## Construction During COVID: Railroad





## Construction During COVID: Complete Streets





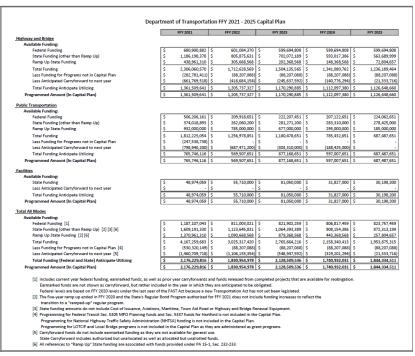


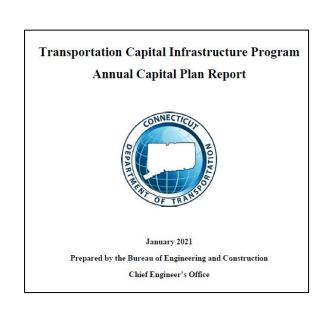


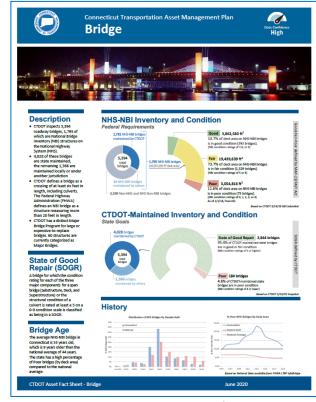


## CTDOT Moving Forward Post COVID-19

- CTDOT 5-Year Capital Plan currently remains unchanged
  - Reviewing Highway traffic volumes
  - Reviewing rail and bus ridership





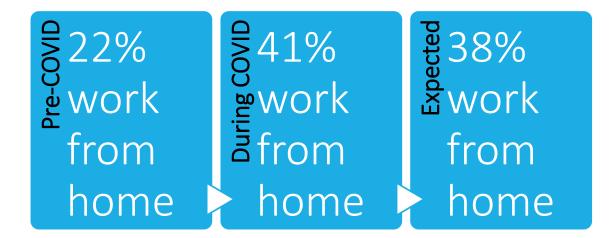


- Continued focus on TAM (Transportation Asset Management)
  - Data driven investment strategies focused on State of Good Repair

## Where is the Future of Transportation Going?

#### WHAT WE KNOW

- How we work, learn, shop and dine has shifted, impacting travel patterns
- Current fears exist around Public Transportation (especially air travel) and ride hailing
- Income disparities exist
  - who must report to work, and the mode choices they have to get there

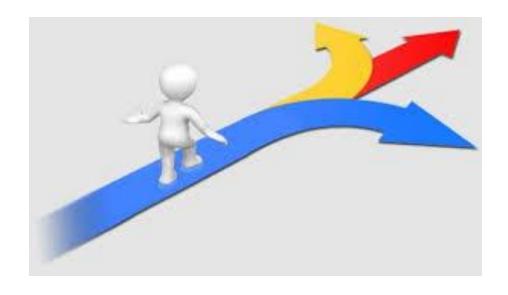


<sup>\*</sup> Data from TRB 2021 Annual Meeting Presentation "Future of Travel in a Post COVID 19 Pandemic World"

## Where is the Future of Transportation Going?

#### UNCERTAINTIES IN TRAVEL PATTERNS, INTERMODAL NEEDS

- What behaviors will last & for how long
- How the economy will rebound
- What employers will do
  - Change policies / close offices to reduce overhead
- Federal and State policies changes may occur
  - De-Carbonization, NEPA changes



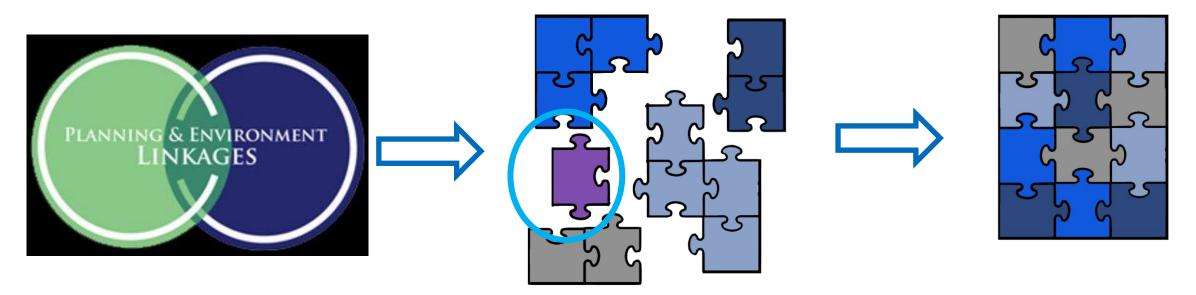
<sup>\*</sup> Data from TRB 2021 Annual Meeting Presentation "Future of Travel in a Post COVID 19 Pandemic World" & "Planning for a New Normal"

## Planning Studies for Targeted Improvements

Identify

Define & Analyze

Implement the Strategy



A process that identifies critical issues, a range of potential alternatives, project priority, possible phasing, and identification of funding sources, all prior to NEPA

